



State of Wisconsin
Department of Public Instruction
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

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Burmaster awards \$4 million in charter grants

Funds support planning activities for 35 new charter schools

MADISON—State Superintendent Elizabeth Burmaster announced more than \$4 million in grant awards to support planning of proposed charter schools and first and second year start-up activities in new charter schools.

“Each community that opens a charter school must evaluate how it can best meet local needs and provide a curriculum that boosts learning for all students and helps close the achievement gap,” Burmaster said. “We will support proposals for new charter schools that have strong academic programs and innovative teaching practices and that encourage community and parental involvement within a system of accountability for results in public education.”

This is the second year of Wisconsin’s \$52 million three-year federal competitive grant to expand the number of charter schools in the state and nation. The 2006-07 grant awards provide funds for planning 35 new charter schools in 26 school districts and support 25 charter schools that are in the first or second year of operation. Schools receiving grants will be eligible for supplemental planning and implementation funds later in the year. Additionally, \$1.7 million of the state’s federal funding will be allocated for dissemination grants, which allow experienced charter schools to share information about their success.

During the 2005-06 school year, Wisconsin had 183 charter schools. The Department of Public Instruction anticipates that 18 new charter schools will open in the 2006-07 school year.

Charter schools are public schools that are accountable to their authorizing agency for performance measures included in the charter contract. Charter schools must employ licensed teachers, involve parents, administer statewide tests, and comply with federal regulations that govern all public schools. Under state law, school districts can authorize an unlimited number of charter schools. In addition, the City of Milwaukee, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee Area Technical College, and University of Wisconsin-Parkside, have authority to charter schools.

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Charter School Grants

2006-07 Fiscal Year

Planning Grants (\$10,000 each)

Appleton Area School District
Roosevelt Middle Charter School

Butternut School District
Butternut Charter School

Clinton Community School District
P.O.W.E.R.

Cumberland School District
Island City Research Academy

Glidden School District
Glidden Charter School

Janesville School District
Janesville Virtual Academy
TAGOS Academy

Kenosha Unified School District
Kenosha School of Tech Enhanced Curriculum

Madison Metropolitan School District
The Studio School

Mellen School District
Mellen Charter School

Mercer School District
Mercer Charter School

Merrill Area Public Schools
Gleason Area Public Charter School
Merrill Alternative Diploma School

Milwaukee
Milwaukee Public Schools
Health Sciences Career Institute

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2R)
Milwaukee Renaissance Academy

New London School District
School of Enterprise Marketing

New Richmond School District
New Richmond Community 4K

Oconto Falls School District
New Path School

Oconto Unified School District
Oconto 4K Charter School

Omro School District
Omro Arts and Technology Center

Oshkosh Area School District
Franklin Key to Learning Charter School
Oshkosh Early Learning Charter School

Rhineland School District
Rhineland Environmental Stewardship Academy

River Falls School District
Kinnickinnic Charter Middle School

Sheboygan Area School District
APACE
Elementary School of the Arts and Academics
Face-to-Face with Learning Online Charter School
High School for the Arts and Academic Design
Lakeshore Academy Charter School
Latinas Unidas New Arrivals Charter School

Shorewood School District
Lake Bluff Multiage School

Stevens Point Area School District
Global Reach Charter School

Waukesha School District
La Escuelita
Waukesha Academy of Science and Engineering

Winter School District
Winter Charter School

Initial Implementation Grants (\$150,000 each)

Appleton Area School District
Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School

Baraboo School District
Baraboo Hills Elementary School

Marshfield School District
Marshfield Human Services Academy

Milwaukee Public Schools
Downtown Institute of Art and Letters
Expressions School of the Arts
Kosciuszko Middle Montessori School

Monroe School District
Abraham Lincoln Accelerated Learning Academy

Oak Creek-Franklin School District
Early Learning Academy

Osceola School District
Osceola Career Charter School

Oshkosh Area School District
Merrill Elementary Healthy Living School

Ripon School District
Ripon Exploration and Application School

Sauk Prairie School District
Merrimac Community Charter School

Whitnall School District
CORE 4

Implementation Renewal Grants (\$150,000 each)

Cambridge School District
JEDI Virtual High School

Milwaukee
Milwaukee Public Schools
Aurora Weier Early College Bilingual School
Honey Creek Continuous Progress School
Milwaukee Academy of Aviation
Milwaukee Learning Laboratory and Institute
Next Door Charter School
The Alliance School
W.E.B. DuBois High School

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2R)
Tenor High School

Monroe School District
Monroe Alternative Middle Charter School

Osceola School District
Osceola Charter Preschool

Trevor-Wilmot Consolidated School District
Wilmot Bright Horizons Charter School